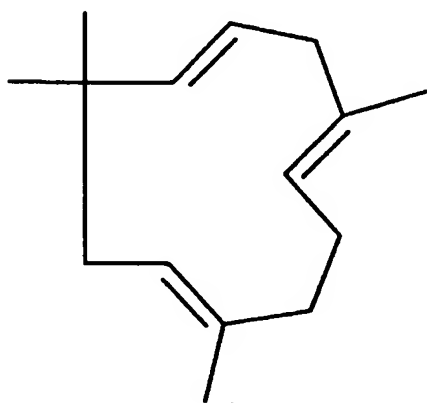


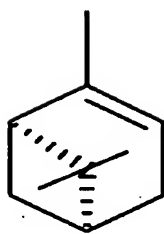
CLAIMS

1. An interleukin-8 production promoter comprising as an active ingredient at least one kind selected from the group consisting of a peppermint extract and a dokudami (houltuynia herb) extract.
2. An interleukin-8 production promoter comprising a licorice extract as an active ingredient.
3. An interleukin-8 production promoter comprising as an active ingredient at least one compound selected from the group consisting of α -humulene represented by formula (1):



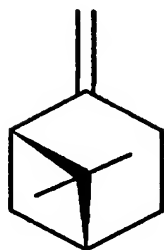
(1)

α -pinene represented by formula (2):



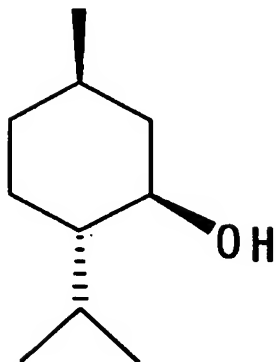
(2)

β -pinene represented by formula (3):



(3)

and L-menthol represented by formula (4):



(4)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4. A composition for promoting interleukin production comprising an interleukin-8 production promoter according to any one of claims 1 to 3 as an active ingredient.

5. A composition for immunostimulation comprising an interleukin-8 production promoter according to any one of claims 1 to 3 as an active ingredient.

6. A composition for preventing or treating an infectious disease comprising an interleukin-8 production promoter according to any one of claims 1 to 3 as an active ingredient.

7. The composition according to any one of claims 4 to 6, wherein the composition is used for food and drink use.

8. A method for promoting interleukin production in mammal comprising administering an effective amount of at least one kind selected from the group consisting of a peppermint extract, a dokudami (houltuynia herb) extract, a licorice extract, a compound represented by formula (1), a compound represented by formula (2), a compound represented by formula (3), and a compound represented by formula (4) to mammal that need them.

9. A method for stimulating immunity in mammal comprising administering an effective amount of at least one kind selected from the group consisting of a peppermint extract, a dokudami

(houlttuynia herb) extract, a licorice extract, a compound represented by formula (1), a compound represented by formula (2), a compound represented by formula (3), and a compound represented by formula (4) to mammal that need them.

10. A method for preventing or treating an infectious disease in mammal comprising administering an effective amount of at least one kind selected from the group consisting of a peppermint extract, a dokudami (houlttuynia herb) extract, a licorice extract, a compound represented by formula (1), a compound represented by formula (2), a compound represented by formula (3), and a compound represented by formula (4) to mammal that need them.